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Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)

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To whom it may concern:

Concerning Docket No. 99N-1307 – FDA's proposed "Safe Handling Instructions" for eggs. I would like to comment on this proposal and say that there are many egg producers out there doing an excellent job producing safe, wholesome eggs for consumption. For those producers who are regularly testing the hens and their environments, and in many cases, immunizing the hens against SE infection by using a federally licensed SE bacterin, then these producers should be exempt from labeling their cartons with such a harsh warning label. I am certain that there are producers out there who do not take food safety seriously enough and need to warn their customers of the dangers that they may encounter if they consume eggs from a non-testing, non-vaccinating egg complex. My comments to FDA are that those producers doing a HACCP based risk reduction program should not have to turn around and warn their customers with an exaggerated depiction of the very thing they are doing their best to prevent. Make the producers who do not participate in a risk reduction program warn their customers, but don't make the good producers out there feel as though they're no better off than the ones doing nothing about risk reduction. This proposal has the potential to increase the incidence of egg associated foodborne illness rather than decrease it by making the good producers quit doing all the preventive things that have worked so well in decreasing the incidence of human SE infections from eggs. Please think about the consequences.

A concerned egg industry employee and egg consumer,



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